

In the Claims

The following amendments are made with respect to the claims in the International application PCT/GB2004/005198.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1 (original). A process for increasing the optical purity of a mixture of enantiomers of nefopam by using a substantially single enantiomer of a *O, O*-diaroyltartaric acid as a resolving agent, via a bisnefopam salt of the acid.

2 (currently amended). [[A]] The process according to claim 1, for preparing a substantially single enantiomer of nefopam by means of resolution of racemic nefopam.

3 (currently amended). [[A]] The process according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, for preparing a substantially single enantiomer of nefopam, which comprises reverse resolution of racemic nefopam or nefopam analogue, using sequentially a single enantiomer of a *O, O*-dibenzoyltartaric acid and then the other enantiomer.

4 (currently amended). [[A]] The process according to any of claims 1 to 3 claim 1, for preparing substantially single enantiomer (+)-nefopam, which uses *O, O*-dibenzoyl-L-tartaric acid as the resolving agent.

5 (currently amended). [[A]] The process according to any of claims 1 to 3 claim 1, for preparing substantially single enantiomer (-)-nefopam, which uses *O, O*-dibenzoyl-D-tartaric acid as the resolving agent.

6 (currently amended). [[A]] The process according to any preceding claim 1, which is conducted in a solvent selected from alcohols, esters, ketones and halogenated solvents.

7 (currently amended). [[A]] The process according to any preceding claim 1, which comprises the further step of conversion of the salt obtained by the resolution to the free base form of nefopam or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8 (currently amended). [[A]] The process according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the amount of the resolving agent is less than 1 equivalent.

9 (currently amended). [[A]] The process according to claim 8, wherein said amount is no more than 0.5 equivalent.

10 (original). A bisnefopam salt of a substantially single enantiomer of a *O,O*-diaroyltartaric acid.

11 (currently amended). [[A]] The salt according to claim 10, wherein the acid is *O,O*-dibenzoyltartaric acid.